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25. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 24 which comprises a nucleotide sequence which encodes a polypeptide comprising at least 150 contiguous amino acid residues of SEQ ID NO:2.

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- 26. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 25 which comprises a nucleotide sequence which encodes a polypeptide comprising at least 300 contiguous amino acid residues of SEQ ID NO:2.
- An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising at least 400 nucleotides and which hybridizes to the complement of the nucleic acid molecule consisting of SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:3 under conditions of incubation at 45°C in 6.0 X SSC followed by washing in 0.2 X SSC, 0.1% SDS at 50°C.
- An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising at least 400 nucleotides and which hybridizes to the complement of the nucleic acid molecule consisting of SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:3 under conditions of incubation at 45°C in 6.0 X SSC followed by washing in 0.2 X SSC, 0.1% SDS at 65°C.
- 29. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence which encodes a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 from amino acid 71 to 524.
- 30. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence which encodes a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.
- 31. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide consisting of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.



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32. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence which is at least 85% identical to the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, wherein the percent identity is determined using the NBLAST program with a score of 100 and a word length of 12.

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- 33. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 36, wherein the nucleotide sequence is at least 95% identical to the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, wherein the percent identity is determined using the NBLAST program with a score of 100 and a word length of 12.
- 34. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.
- 35. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:3.
- 36. An isolated nucleic acid molecule consisting essentially of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:3.
- 37. An isolated nucleic acid molecule consisting of the nucleotide sequence SEQ ID NO:3.
 - 38. A vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule as in any one of claims 24 to 37.
- 39. The vector of claim 38, which includes nucleic acid sequences which regulate expression of a polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid molecule.
 - 40. A host cell comprising the vector of claim 38.
 - 41. A host cell comprising the vector of claim 39.
 - 42. A host cell comprising the nucleic acid molecule as in any one of claims 24 to 37.

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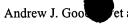
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> 43. The host cell of claim 40 which is a mammalian host cell.

> The host cell of claim 41 which is a mammalian host cell. 44.

> 45. The host cell of claim 42 which is a mammalian host cell.

A recombinant method for producing an isolated polypeptide comprising 46. culturing the host cell of claim 42 under conditions in which the nucleic acid molecule is expressed. --

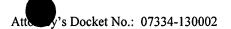




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REMARKS

Attached is a marked-up version of the changes being made by the current amendment.

Applicant asks that all claims be examined. Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 24 July 2001

Anita L. Meiklejohn, Ph.D. Reg. No. 35,283

Fish & Richardson P.C. 225 Franklin Street Boston, MA 02110-2804 Telephone: (617) 542-5070 Facsimile: (617) 542-8906

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